

T- 133
A. B. Highley House
Oxford
Private

c. 1800

Historically known as the A. B. Highley house, this story-and-a-half dwelling was built originally in the vicinity of Trappe, a small crossroads village in southern Talbot County. Dismantled and rebuilt on this town lot off North Morris Street, the re-erected dwelling was conventionally framed with modern materials and the historic interiors features were refitted to the new framework. The original story-and-a-half dwelling was erected in two distinct stages dating from the late years of the eighteenth century or the first decade of the nineteenth century. In order to make the house livable by late twentieth century standards, a gambrel-roofed addition was attached to the east side of the rebuilt house.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: A. B. Highley House

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: T-133

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture
2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore
3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Rural Agricultural Intensification
1680-1815
4. Resource Type(s): Single-family dwelling

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. T-133
Magi No.
DOE ___yes ___no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic A. B. Highley House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 310 North Morris Street ___ not for publication

city, town Oxford ___ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Talbot

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
___ district	___ public	___X occupied	___ agriculture ___ museum
___X building(s)	___X private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial ___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational ___X private residence
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment ___ religious
___ object	___ in process	___X yes: restricted	___ government ___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial ___ transportation
	___X not applicable	___ no	___ military ___ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mr. and Mrs. McCarthy

street & number 310 North Morris Street telephone no.:

city, town Oxford state and zip code MD 21654

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Clerk of Court liber

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio

city, town Easton state MD 21601

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties

date 1977 ___ federal ___X state ___ county ___ local

pository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville state MD 21032

7. Description

Survey No. T-133

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			1975

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The A. B. Highley house, located at 310 North Morris Street, is situated at the end of a short lane that intersects North Morris Street south of The Strand in Oxford, Talbot County, Maryland. Moved to this site in 1975, the story-and-a-half frame dwelling faces west with the gable roof oriented on a north/south axis. Attached to the back of the old house is a story-and-a-half gambrel-roofed addition erected after the old house was reassembled on the lot. The house formerly stood in the vicinity of Trappe.

Estimated to date late 18th century or early 19th century, the story-and-a-half house was built in two stages according to the owner, Rusty Donahue, who dismantled the building and relocated it to Oxford. The removal of plaster indicated the story-and-a-half house was initially twenty-foot square with a side passage/parlor plan that was enlarged shortly thereafter with a one-room plan addition. The relocation of the structure involved the complete disassembly of the building. While the old materials were reused in its reconstruction, the relocated house was conventionally framed. Old brick was used in the new foundation and 18th-century style chimneys were erected on each gable end. The house is sheathed with beaded weatherboards, and the steeply pitched gable roof is covered with wood shingles.

The west (main) elevation is an asymmetrical four-bay facade with the entrance located in the second bay from the south corner. A six-panel front door is topped by a four-light transom. Unevenly spaced six-over-six sash windows fill the other bays. The base of the steeply pitched wood shingle roof is finished with a boxed cornice. The roof is marked by a pair of unevenly placed gable roof dormers filled with six-over-six sash windows. The brick foundation wall is pierced by rectangular cellar vents with horizontal bars.

The north and south gable ends feature exterior brick chimneys with double shouldered weatherings and single flue stacks. Narrow sash windows light the second floor rooms. The edge of the roof is finished with a beaded bargeboard.

The interior features a mixture of original and restoration woodwork. The center passage contains an enclosed staircase in the northeast corner. Beaded board paneling encloses the stair. A raised four-panel door opens into the small area below the staircase. Raised six-panel doors open into the adjacent rooms, which are trimmed with restoration moldings. Ovolo molded backband surrounds frame the windows and doors. Trimming the perimeter of the walls is a beaded edge baseboard and beaded edge chair rail. Fixed to each fireplace is a Federal style mantel.

The second floor is divided in the same fashion with a center passage and a bedroom to each side. Raised six-panel doors hung on long strap hinges remain on each door opening.

8. Significance

Survey No. T-133

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Historically known as the A. B. Highley house, this story-and-a-half dwelling was built originally in the vicinity of Trappe, a small crossroads village in southern Talbot County. Dismantled and rebuilt on this town lot off North Morris Street, the re-erected dwelling was conventionally framed with modern materials and the historic interiors features were refitted to the new framework. The original story-and-a-half dwelling was erected in two distinct stages dating from the late years of the eighteenth century or the first decade of the nineteenth century. In order to make the house livable by late twentieth century standards, a gambrel-roofed addition was attached to the east side of the rebuilt house.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. T-133

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing						

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing						

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Private Consultant

date 4/23/98

street & number P. O. Box 5

telephone 410-651-1094

city or town Westover

state Maryland 21871

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHC/PHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600



T-133
A. B. Highley House
Oxford, Maryland Quadrangle
1942

Benon Point



T-133

A. B. Cheney House

OXFORD, THOMAS COUNTY, MD.

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

4/90, PAUL TOLACT, PHOTOGRAPHED

NEG. / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

1 of 2



T. 133

A B Highway House
O'Brien Twp. Co., ND
Southwest corner of

4/98, Paul Tourist, Photograph
NE 1/4 of Section 133
2 of 2

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

A.B. Highley House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Beaver Dam Rd., .5 mile S.E. of Rt. 50 (north)

CITY, TOWN

Trappe

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Talbot

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☐ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☒ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED
☒ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Highley, A. Bowdle, Trust

Telephone #:(301) 822-3494

STREET & NUMBER

c/o Douglas Hanks Sr., Harrison St.

CITY, TOWN

Easton

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21601

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Talbot County Courthouse

Liber #: 175

Folio #: 118

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☒ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Nothing exists at the present site of the A.B. Highley House since it was moved to Oxford since 1969.

The building which formerly stood on the property was a small one and one-half story frame structure, four bays long and one deep. There was an external chimney on each end. On its east end was another room which was removed when the house was moved to Oxford.

Its interior consisted of a central corridor with enclosed stair at the back of the corridor, with a room on each side. When the plaster was removed, it was found that the building had two building periods, the first was 20 feet square and contained a heated room with a small room west thereof and access to the present stair from the heated room. It seemed to be early 19th century. Shortly thereafter a 14 foot addition was built on the west side and the small west room of the original was converted into a corridor.

The building is presently undergoing restoration at its new site behind the Robert Morris Inn, Oxford.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Highley House is interest to historians of vernacular architecture because of its unique development.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

April, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

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Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

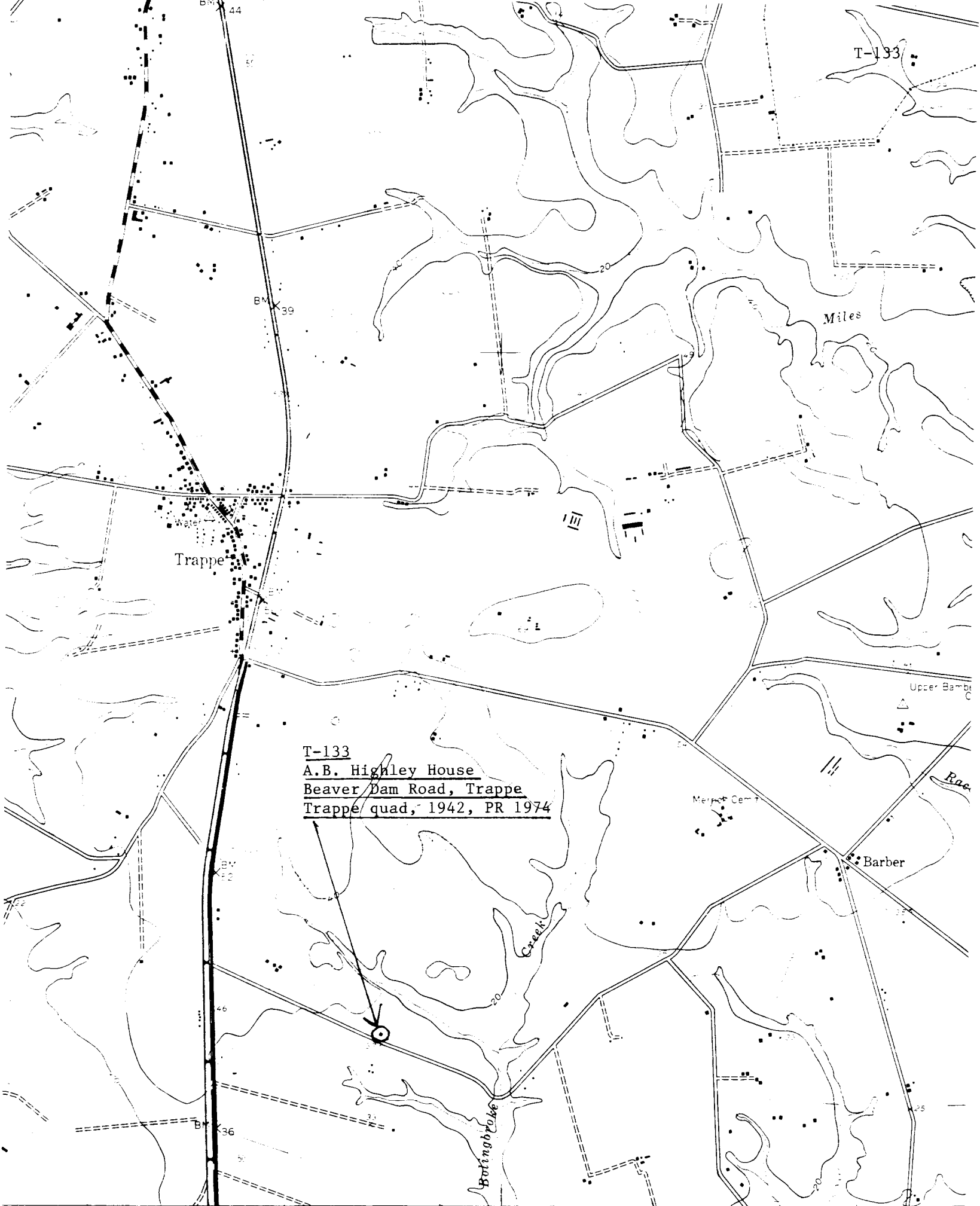
TRAPPE

Dist. No. 3

TALBOT CO.

G.M. Hopkins
1877 ATLAS
Lake, Griffing & Stevenson
T-133





T-133
A.B. Highley House
Beaver Dam Road, Trappe
Trappe quad, 1942, PR 1974



13 x 1.32

50%

133

A.B. Highley House, Oxford

T-133



M. Bourne June 1975